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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A silver alloy for use in a reflective film, comprising consisting essentially of silver as a main element, erbium and at least one rare earth element as a first dopant element, and at least one second dopant element selected from the group consisting of indium, gallium, copper, palladium, and gold, wherein the combined total concentration of the first and second dopant elements is from 0.01 to 3.0 atomic %.
2. (CANCELED)
3. (CANCELED)
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1, comprising gallium as a wherein the second dopant element comprises gallium.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1, comprising as a wherein the second dopant element comprises palladium, at least one of platinum and palladium.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1, comprising as a wherein the second dopant element comprises gold, at least one element selected from magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, gold and aluminum.
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1, comprising as a wherein the second dopant element comprises copper, at least one element selected from copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, manganese, scandium, and yttrium.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The silver alloy for use in a reflective film according to claim 1, comprising as a wherein the second dopant element comprises indium, at least one element selected from silicon, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, iridium, indium, lead, calcium, antimony, strontium, hafnium, germanium, and boron.

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CANCELED)

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A sputtering target, comprising the silver alloy as defined in claim 1.

12. (WITHDRAWN) An optical recording medium comprising a substrate and a silver alloy on the substrate which silver alloy comprises silver and at least one rare-earth element as a first dopant element.

13. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a first dopant element comprising at least one of at least one of dysprosium and thulium.

14. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a first dopant element comprising at least one of terbium, gadolinium, erbium, neodymium, holmium, praseodymium, samarium, lanthanum, cerium, ytterbium, and europium.

15. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a second dopant element comprising gallium.

16. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a second dopant element comprising at least one element selected

from platinum and palladium.

17. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium silver according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a second dopant element comprising at least one element selected from magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, gold and aluminum.

18. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a second dopant element comprising at least one element selected from copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, manganese, scandium, and yttrium.

19. (WITHDRAWN) The optical recording medium according to claim 12 wherein the silver alloy comprises a second dopant element comprising at least one element selected from silicon, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, iridium, indium, lead, calcium, antimony, strontium, hafnium, germanium, and boron.

20. (WITHDRAWN) A method for producing an optical recording medium which comprises forming a film of a silver alloy on a substrate, which silver alloy comprises a first dopant element selected from at least one of dysprosium, thulium, terbium, gadolinium, erbium, neodymium, holmium, praseodymium, samarium, lanthanum, cerium, ytterbium, and europium; and which silver alloy optionally further comprises a second dopant element selected from at least one of platinum, palladium, magnesium, zinc, nickel, molybdenum, gold, aluminum, copper, cobalt, tin, titanium, bismuth, manganese, scandium, yttrium, silicon, chromium, iron, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, tungsten, rhodium, iridium, indium, lead, calcium, antimony, strontium, hafnium, germanium, and boron.